THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (f) According to available information, during the period 1.4.1996 to 31.7.1996 the office of Jt.DG, Cochin had received a representation in this regard from M/s. Balmer Lawrie & Co. a Public Sector Undertaking. In this case, the Principal Director of Audit, Madras had raised an audit objection on overpayment of CCS to the company. The Government had taken up the matter with the Principal Director of Audit, Madras who confirmed the objection. Consequently, the overpayment of CCS was adjusted against other pending claims and the audit objection has accordingly been settled.

Proposal to abolish the contract labour system

2851. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK:
SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to abolish the contract labour system;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 seeks to regulate the employment of contract labour in certain establishements and to provide for its abolition in certain circumstances and for matters connected therewith.

The Act came into force w.e.f. 10-2-1971.

The central objective of the Act is to abolish contract labour in certain jobs/processes and to regualte the employment of contract labour in other jobs/processes where it can not be abolished. In other words, the Act does not envisage total abolition of contract labour system. It permits continuance of contract labour system but seeks to regulate it in jobs/processes/operations which are casual and intermittent in nature. The Central Government as appropriate Government for industries specified in the Act have issued several notifications since 1975 prohibiting employment of contract labour in specified processes/operation in a large number of establishments and industries.

Quality cut of paddy to the State Government by FCI

2852. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have represented for payment of Rs. 16.80 crores towards quality of paddy (rice) to the State Government by the FCI;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether necessary instructions to the FCI for early payment has been issued; and

(d) when the payment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Upto 1994-95 rice used to be procured if the quality was within the prescribed range i.e. between tolerance limit and rejection limit. With the adoption of "single grade specifications" in respect of rice the scope of value cuts has been reduced considerably. However, in 1995-96 rice marketing season, on requests of certain State Govts., quality parameters were relaxed subject to value cuts in respect of only 4 out of 9 parameters. Whatever quality cuts are made,